CLAIMS

- 1. Detergent and conditioning cosmetic hair composition, characterized in that it comprises, in a cosmetically acceptable aqueous medium, (A) a washing base and (B) at least one liquid ester of a carboxylic acid containing from 4 to 6 carbon atoms and of an alcohol containing from 12 to 26 carbon atoms.
- Composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that the said washing base comprises
 one or more surfactants chosen from anionic, amphoteric and nonionic surfactants, and mixtures thereof.
- 3. Composition according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the said washing base is present in an amount by weight of between 4% and 50% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition, preferably between 6% and 35% by weight and more preferably between 8% and 25% by weight.
- Composition according to any one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the said ester has
 the following formula:

R₁COOR₂

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(I)

in which:

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 R_1 denotes a linear or branched, optionally mono- or polyhydroxylated hydrocarbon-based radical containing from 3 to 5 carbon atoms,

 R_2 denotes a linear or branched, optionally mono- or polyhydroxylated hydrocarbon-based radical containing from 12 to 26 carbon atoms.

- 5. Composition according to Claim 4,
 characterized in that R₁ denotes a branched alkyl
 radical containing from 3 to 5 carbon atoms,
 R₂ denotes an alkyl radical containing 12 to 26 carbon
 atoms, which is more particularly branched.
- 6. Composition according to either of Claims 4 and 5, characterized in that R_1 denotes a tertbutyl radical.
 - 7. Composition according to any one of Claims 4 to 6, characterized in that R_2 is chosen from tridecyl, isocetyl, isostearyl, octyldodecyl and isoarachidyl radicals.

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- 8. Composition according to any one of Claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the said ester is present in concentrations of between 0.1% and 20% and preferably between 0.2% and 10% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.
- 9. Composition according to any one of Claims 1 to 8, characterized in that it also contains one or more adjuvants chosen from cationic surfactants, anionic, nonionic, cationic or amphoteric polymers,
- proteins, ceramides, pseudoceramides, silicones, plant oils, synthetic oils, hydroxy acids, vitamins and panthenol, and mixtures thereof.

- 10. Composition according to Claim 9, characterized in that the cationic polymer is chosen from quaternary cellulose ether derivatives, diallyl-dimethylammonium salt homopolymers, copolymers of diallyldimethylammonium salt and of acrylamide, and cationic polysaccharides.
- 11. Composition according to either of Claims 9 and 10, characterized in that the said cationic polymer represents from 0.001% to 10% by
 weight, preferably from 0.005% to 5% by weight and even more preferably from 0.01% to 3% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.
- 12. Use of a composition as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 11, for cleaning and/or conditioning the hair.
- 13. Process for washing and conditioning the hair, which consists in applying an effective amount of a composition as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 11 to the said wet materials, and then in rinsing them

 20 with water, after optionally leaving the composition to stand on the materials for a period of time.